

Welcome to the Allergy Clinic!

The Reynolds Army Community Hospital (RACH) Allergy Clinic provides immunotherapy (“allergy shots”) for those active duty personnel, retired personnel and their dependents that require such therapy as prescribed by a physician.

There is no board-certified allergist on staff here at Reynolds. Therefore, most patients have been evaluated off-post, and will have received their first allergy shot at the allergist’s office. Subsequent shots may be administered here at RACH after a screening appointment with the Allergy Clinic OIC. Due to the potential risk of serious reaction to allergy shots, we feel it is important that a RACH physician conduct a brief interview and medical record review. This provides familiarity with the Allergy patients, and a smooth transition to our clinic’s operating procedures.

Your appointment will be on _____. Please bring a copy of your allergy consultation, serum and/or immunotherapy prescription to the Allergy clinic.

Routine allergy injections for maintenance therapy are given according to posted Immunization/Allergy Clinic hours. **Hours of operation: Monday 0730-1130, Tuesday 1300-1600, Wednesday 0730-1130 and 1300-1600, Thursday 0730-1130, Friday 1300-1600. This clinic is closed on all federal holidays. Allergy shots will not be given after 1530 to allow for 30-minute observation period.**

The standard schedule for allergy injection treatment is as follows:

a. Allergy injections are initially given twice weekly. During this period the dosage is gradually increased based upon patient response and tolerance. Once the maximum dose of full strength dilution has been reached the next injections are given at intervals of once a week, and then once every 2-3 weeks. If the patients’ condition can be maintained at this level, the subsequent maintenance injections will be administered every four weeks.

b. Any variation from this schedule must be determined by the allergy technician and/or physician recommendation.

Patients should report any reactions that may have occurred either immediately following or within 24 hours of an allergy injection prior to receiving further treatments. These reactions include local swelling or itching at the injection site, difficulty breathing, asthma, cough, hives, itching of the skin, sneezing, and/or running nose.

Patients are required to remain in the Allergy Clinic waiting room for **30 minutes** following injection. During this 30-minute period patients are requested not to leave the clinic area. At the end of this safety period the allergy technician must check the injection site for any possible reactions prior to patient departure.

No patient should receive shots if patient is not feeling well, or during and exacerbation of allergies or asthma.

When seen in Allergy Clinic the patient needs medical records with each visit. A copy of the visit will be maintained in the Allergy Clinic. No allergy record is to leave the clinic unless approved by the OIC of Allergy/Immunization Clinic.

We recommend annual follow-up with an Allergist while on Immunotherapy

Any questions may be addressed to the undersigned,

Christopher C. Highley D.O. (CPT, MC, USA)
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